Equal Rights

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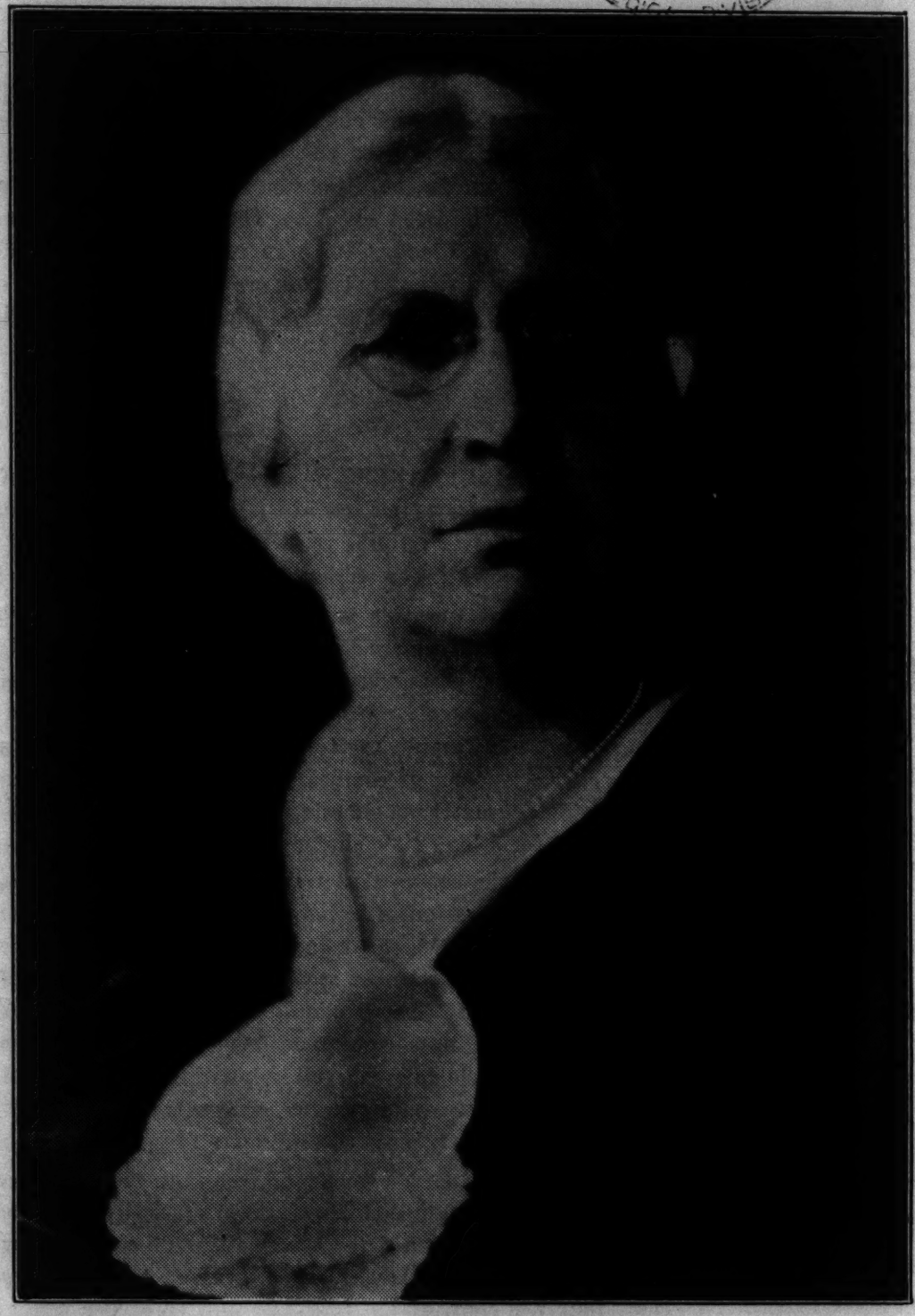

Sarah Tarleton Colvin

Notables of various political faiths attended the dinner held recently in St. Paul, Minnesota, under the auspices of the Minnesota Branch of the National Woman's Party. The affair was a tribute both to Sarah T. Colvin, National Chairman of the Party, whose home is in St. Paul, and to Florence Bayard Hilles of Wilmington, Delaware, a former National Chairman and now First Vice-Chairman of the Party. Mrs. Colvin presided, and Mrs. Hilles and representatives of three major political parties addressed the gathering, among whom were some of the leading citizens of St. Paul.

Equal Rights

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

Annual Dues	$10.00
Associate Members	$1.00
Subscribing Members	$3.00
Founders	$100.00
Life Members	$1,000.00
Endowers	$5,000.00
Sustainers	$5,000.00

OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 1]
[House Joint Resolution Number 1]

Introduced in the Senate March 10, 1933, by SENATOR JOHN G. TOWNSEND, Delaware.

Introduced in the House March 9, 1933, by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

A Busy Summer

MIDSUMMER, siesta time of the year, does not find the National Woman's Party napping. Everywhere, officers and members are as busy as, or busier than in cooler weather.

Abroad, Alice Paul is on the firing line in Geneva and Paris, while Doris Stevens, Sarah T. Colvin, Florence Bayard Hilles, Anita Pollitzer, Rebekah Greathouse and others are seeing that no efforts are spared that may loosen the legal and political chains that bind the women of the Americas.

In the United States, Mrs. Hilles and Miss Pollitzer have been making a grand tour of the Middle West with significant results, ending triumphantly in St. Paul, Minnesota, home of Mrs. Colvin, National Chairman of the Woman's Party, where they were welcomed by enthusiastic gatherings of men and women, many of them leaders in the major political parties. The harvest of new members should be impressive when heads are counted in the autumn.

In the meantime, in Richmond, Va., plans are under way for the coming Eastern Conference of the Party which is to precede the National Convention, both to be held in the fall. Local arrangements for the Conference are going forward under the direction of Mrs. Robert F. Hudson, State Chairman of Virginia, assisted by Elsie Graff of Richmond, and in collaboration with Arabel W. Clark, Chairman of the Eastern Conference Committee. Both Conference and Convention promise to be notable occasions, and members of the Party are urged to lay their plans sufficiently in advance to enable them to attend both.

Strange

WILLINGNESS to abide by the law is one of the most necessary attributes of citizenship. Based on this consideration alone, women are better citizens than men, since less women than men are violators of the law and fewer women than men are inmates of jails and penitentiaries.

But the question is sometimes raised whether women are by their fundamental nature more inclined to be moral and upright than men, or whether their being so is more or less accidental, due to the fact that large numbers live a comparatively sheltered life, while men as a class are exposed to the rough and tumble, the turmoil and temptations, of a highly competitive existence. So long as conditions affecting the lives of men in general differed so widely from those affecting women in general, this was a fair question—one that for a long time eluded a positive answer.

Now, however, what appears to be an explanation is furnished by statistics on the operation of automobiles. At the outset, we may fairly assume that every driver of a car, man or woman, is confronted with exactly the same set of conditions, whether applying to the mechanism of the machine or to traffic problems. If then it should be found that one sex or the other has a preponderating number of good drivers, as gauged from lack of violations of the motor vehicle law charged against them, this could not be ascribed to pure accident, but would have to be accepted as evidence that members of that sex were inherently more careful, more responsible, and more amenable to the law.

That women are better drivers than men is conceded by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Motor Vehicles. From statistics gathered in the last five months, the Bureau found that women, although constituting eighteen per cent. of the State's licensed drivers, were involved in only six per cent. of the accidents, four per cent. of the fatalities and eight per cent. of the non-fatal injuries. Of 3,528 operators whose licenses were withdrawn because of law violations, only 66 were women.

Here, says the *Associated Press*, is what the Bureau says of women drivers:

"The average woman driver has developed certain qualities in a higher degree than has the average man.

"Among these are alertness, speed in acting, ready perception and intuition.

"She is probably more obedient to the laws and the safety regulations."

Granting then that obedience to the laws is one of the prime requisites of citizenship, is it not strange that women who demonstrably possess the greater potentialities for good in that direction are denied the right to exercise the full prerogatives of citizenship?

Minnesota Participates in Equal Rights Demand

By Sarah T. Colvin,
National Chairman, National Woman's Party

GREAT good for the Equal Rights movement has been accomplished these last few weeks by the coming of national officers from the East, to crystalize what women themselves are feeling out here in regard to equal economic rights, equal legal rights, and the need for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Florence Bayard Hilles, distinguished in so many ways, who has given gallant, continuous work for equality for women, First Vice-Chairman of the National Woman's Party and former National Chairman, arrived in St. Paul to be honor guest at a dinner of the Minnesota Branch of the National Woman's Party, at which representatives of three major political parties spoke.

THE dinner attracted a representative group with widely scattered interests. Politics is greatly to the fore now, and the representatives of the parties were eager to tell women the main points their parties are stressing, and to hear the demands of women, in this campaign.

Anna Dickie Oleson, Director of the Minnesota Emergency Council, and recognized as a leading member of the Democratic Party of the State, spoke for her party. Former Governor A. A. Burnquist spoke for the Republican Party; Howard Williams, Secretary of the Farmer-Labor Political Federation, spoke for the Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota; and Vince Day, Secretary to Governor Oleson, represented the Governor who was unavoidably absent in another part of the State on Farmer-Labor Party business. At the speakers' table, in addition to this group of speakers, were Mrs. Burnquist, Olivia Johnson, Chairman of the St. Paul Branch, National Woman's Party; Mrs. Vincent A. Law, Secretary; Florence Rood, Treasurer; and Mrs. C. C. Dailey, Chairman of Reservations.

Mrs. Hilles, who won her spurs as a suffrage picket and was arrested and sentenced to jail at that time, is one of America's outstanding women. Here in St. Paul her audience caught her message instantaneously and gave her an immediate response.

After your Chairman opened the meeting by reminding the large assembled group that increasing legal and economic discrimination against women was making them realize more and more the need for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, and our three speakers had told us what they would do for women, Mrs. Hilles was introduced, and told her hearers that the Woman's Party was non-partisan—but political. It worked politically through all parties. Its immediate objective is the writing of the Amendment declaring, "Men and women shall have Equal Rights in the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction." In addition to telling of the legal restrictions, she dwelt forcefully upon the difficulties that custom and tradition played in preventing women from developing their talents and taking their rightful place in a political and economic world. Her talk was full of human incidents, setting forth the fallacy of restriction and "protection" and urging Equal Rights under the law for men and women.

Mrs. Hilles spoke to the Ramsey County Farmer-Labor Women's Club, and, on her last evening, to a group of women from St. Paul and Minneapolis at my house. As is always with Mrs. Hilles, she left behind her a host of friends and a better understanding of the Woman's Party and its objects.

AT OUR suggestion, Anita Pollitzer, Third Vice-Chairman of the Woman's Party and Secretary of its Congressional Committee, came on from Chicago to do follow-up work. Like Mrs. Hilles, Miss Pollitzer was my house guest, and the days she spent in St. Paul were a round of activities. Speaking at my home the evening of her arrival to a group of Minneapolis and St. Paul women, she stressed the need of immediate, concrete work for the Amendment. Among the pertinent facts she brought out, which were of great interest to these women, many of them home-makers, was the resumé by Professor William Ogburn, eminent sociologist, from a New York *Times* article on "The American Family Today — its Trends," in which he says, "It is clear that parents who educate their daughters for marriage and a life within the home are taking dangerous chances. In about one case out of ten the daughter will not marry at all. In case she marries, the chance that she will lose her husband by divorce is one in five or six. The chance that the bride's husband, if he does not divorce her, will die before 50 and before she dies, is about one in thirteen. Therefore, the probability that she will become a widow by death or divorce before she is 45, is about one in four or five."

On Tuesday, Miss Pollitzer addressed a meeting of the St. Paul Zonta Club, in the Women's City Club.

On Thursday, she was guest speaker at a luncheon-meeting of the St. Paul Business and Professional Women's Club.

On Friday, a group of leading nurses came to my home to discuss with Miss Pollitzer and myself certain of the social implications of Equal Rights. At one point in the discussion she read several fine excerpts from a paper written by Anne Goodrich, Dean of Nursing of Yale University, just before the last National Woman's Party Convention in Wilmington, in which Miss Goodrich says: "There is a moral obligation in obtaining an equality of status, demanded by the changes in home life that have come through the advances of science, the development in the educational systems and the entrance of women into the fields of occupation, education and sports.

"Youth, boys and girls, are sadly in need of protection today. One has only to scan the statistics relating to crime, delinquency and mental defectives, to realize the necessity of an equality of social status that will place upon the woman power of the country the responsibility which she should jointly share with men in the formation of laws and in achieving those means through which the health, efficiency, and happiness of the oncoming generations will be safeguarded.

"Equal pay for equal service will only be obtainable when protective legislation is no longer an excuse for differentiation. The decision as to the suitability of a given occupation should be by women for themselves and not by men for women." Miss Pollitzer pointed out that unless women wanted to be engulfed the time was *now*. Here, as at other meetings, the talk pointed to the Equal Rights Amendment and the need of getting Minnesota's candidates for Congress to give their pledges for the Amendment.

ON Saturday afternoon, Mrs. C. C. Dailey entertained at tea for Miss Pollitzer. Again, there were many converts and women expressed their desire to join a non-partisan organization working for women. In between these talks there were many meetings with individuals and leaders of other groups.

The task of future workers for Equal Rights in Minnesota will be much easier because of the impetus given by Mrs. Hilles and Anita Pollitzer. Their messages were clear, and direct, and the arguments are difficult to challenge.

Dr. Alfaro Praises Inter American Commission

Extract from a speech delivered recently by Ricardo J. Alfaro, Minister of Panama to this country, before the Young Women's Christian Association of Washington, D. C.

ONE of the most interesting and gratifying aspects of Pan American relationship is the one which touches upon culture and intellectual understanding. There is still a great deal to be done in this field but it must be admitted that great progress has been accomplished already. Travel, study of languages, distribution of adequate information by lectures, books, magazines and newspapers, interchange of music and literature—all these are things which cause the knowledge of each other to increase considerably in two sections of the continent. As real knowledge is disseminated, good understanding and appreciation are more evident. Gatherings of this kind, which tend to awaken in this country popular interest in the peoples to the South of the United States, in their artistic and spiritual values, constitute a magnificent contribution to the cause of mutual appreciation and good will.

In this kind of work, the action of the women and of women's social organizations such as the Y. W. C. A. will be of invaluable help. Women have already obtained recognition of their right to participate in domestic politics and they are beginning to obtain similar recognition in the field of international action. In the last Conference of American States, held at Montevideo, the world saw what had never happened before, namely, feminine representation in the Conference.

Women delegates [and technical advisers] were accredited by the United States, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, [Dominican Republic] and Mexico and, while their number was not large, they certainly excelled in quality, for they can be credited with some of the most signal successes of the Conference. A resolution unanimously approved December 16, 1933, gave a vote of thanks and paid high tribute to the Inter American Commission of Women for the splendid work which it has accomplished in the furtherance of its ideals. Another resolution recommended that in the next Conference feminine delegates be included in all the delegations. And what is still more important, a Convention was signed by all States represented in the Conference, wherein it was stipulated that no distinction or discrimination whatsoever shall be made with regard to nationality on account of the sex of the nationals, neither by legislation, nor by practice. This was a magnificent triumph for the cause of equality of civil and political rights between men and women and a harbinger of greater and still more brilliant advances in the future.

The organization of functions like this is a most encouraging sign. Pan Americanism will grow not only because the governments, we hope, will continue to work for peace, justice and coöperation, but because the people seem to be sincerely interested in developing the cultural, intellectual, spiritual bonds upon which are founded real friendship, genuine appreciation and cordial understanding. I cherish the hope that the victories obtained by women in the last Pan American Conference will be followed by an intensive, ever-growing action in the field of continental amity and it is my privilege to present my best congratulations to the Young Women's Christian Association for their splendid initiative.

Equal Rights and Individuality

By E. Eva Farrell

Miss Farrell is a sales-manager, and a member of the Philadelphia Branch of the National Woman's Party. This paper was read at the Regional Conference of the Party, recently held in Atlantic City.

THE passage of the Equal Nationality Bill and the ratification of the Equal Nationality Treaty are wonderful achievements. We are therefore infinitely grateful to the courageous and marvelous leaders who toiled so diligently for the Party's objective, and to the far-seeing Congressmen on Capitol Hill who assisted our cause.

I have chosen for my subject "Individuality" in its application to Equal Rights, which we know, when consummated, will mean freedom in all legitimate phases to women throughout these United States. Webster defines equality as the state of being equal, and individuality as a quality of being a distinctive thinker. The intelligent, fine women of our nation have already awakened to the fact that they are needed in local and national politics, both as makers of laws and in their execution. When the Equal Rights Amendment becomes a nation-wide mandate, unlimited opportunity will be given women to exercise their inherent qualities of sound judgment, constructive reasoning and honest, conscientious services to clean up the unfortunate conditions into which politics has fallen. Bossism and the bestowal of political plums upon subservient henchmen and racketeering favorites have supplanted what was once idealistic in our Government. It is our responsibility to hasten the day when equality of men and women under the law becomes a written part of our Constitution as well as it is now in spirit.

Why are good women needed to individualize right thinking in political affairs? Mainly because, through instinct, women protect the home and family, which are the foundation of our American governmental ideals; they weigh more deeply than do men the possible reactions and consequences of governmental problems and their statutory solutions. It is urgent that they participate in solving controversial points, especially when their interests are at stake. The importance of these facts cannot be too urgently emphasized and, in addition to what has already been said, there is the need of projecting the ideals which we hold to the less enlightened women of the country.

I am informed that only 30 per cent. of United States citizens are registered as voters. Out of this number, 10 per cent distribute these votes to party alignment, 10 per cent. can be swayed by incorrect influences, and the remaining 10 per cent. vote blindly. Thus 70 per cent. more voters should be found, and we hope women will accept the responsibility and do their part to make up the deficit. We cannot have good local or national government when only 30 per cent. of our citizens take interest and qualify as voters. There is much to be improved in politics and many good laws are needed before our country can return to normal prosperity.

The Equal Rights Amendment *exacts real workers.*

I have been informed that a County Relief Poor Board has employed types of men who have used human misery for their political popularity and to gain notoriety in newspapers. When right-thinking women with vision took interest recently, the evil political plots failed in their aims, children were saved from a life of shame, individuals were reformed, and justice was done.

Another achievement needed for the betterment of our civilization is slum cleaning. The slums are a national menace and cannot lead to anything but poverty, degeneracy and crime.

Abolishing of war, the conditions leading to war and its after-effects are future tremendous responsibilities on women's shoulders.

The Equal Rights Amendment should be a vital factor in promoting peace and the art of peace within our borders and throughout the world.

What more convincing reason could there be for lending every effort to further the speedy enactment of this our third objective, the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States?

In conclusion, we need organization and a million workers, and the following up of all contacts.

The Teachers' Dilemma

IN more ways than one, conditions affecting American teachers are conditions that affect all American women. Doubtless, there are more women in the teaching than in any other profession. Teaching was one of the first professions to which women were admitted. Women teachers greatly out-number men teachers. Finally, next to parents, teachers exert the strongest influence on the minds of the young.

If teachers—that is real teachers, as distinguished from supervisors and superintendents which higher (?) and better-paid jobs are usually filled by men—are discriminated against, it means that the unjust treatment accorded them finds its counterpart in every field—professional, business and industrial—that women have entered.

Always a champion of the class-room teacher, the hard-working, grudgingly-appreciated, underpaid, individual on whose shoulders rests the burden of educating the children of America, Arabel W. Clark expresses her views in detail in an article, entitled "Education, Quo Vadis?" in a recent number of *The Pennsylvania Teacher,* a quarterly published by the Pennsylvania State Teachers' League. Dr. Clark is editor and business manager of this quarterly. She is also, as those will recall who attended the Harrisburg Conference of the National Woman's Party in January, and the Atlantic City Conference in June, the Chairman of the Eastern Conference Committee of the Party, an able executive, and an ardent Feminist.

Her article in *The Pennsylvania Teacher* which all who are interested in the training of the youth of our land should read, note and inwardly digest, letting their consciences decide what could and should be done to remedy the abuses which have crept into the educational systems of our land, attracted the critical notice of Henry L. Mencken, founder and former editor of *The American Mercury.* Mr. Mencken writes with customary raillery which, as usual, is a thin disguise for a serious purpose, that is, to show his entire agreement with Dr. Clark. His editorial is taken from *The Evening Sun* of Baltimore of June 9, and reads:

A Beautiful Worm Turns

I

A PLEASANT sign of the times is the growing revolt of the schoolma'ams of this great Republic against the pedagogical padrones who have so long dragooned and exploited them. The poor girls have suffered enough, and certainly deserve deliverance. On the one hand they have been forced to fill their lovely heads with a great mass of blowsy nonsense, by the uplift out of the humoral psychology, all of it designed ostensibly to teach them how to teach. And on the other hand they have had to stand by in silence while billions of the taxpayer's money have been thrown away on gaudy extravagances, and to bear most of the loss whenever the taxpayer arose in dudgeon and refused to pay any more. Thousands and thousands of them, during the past few years, have been reduced to board wages, and not a few have gone without any pay whatever. No wonder they begin to arm and drill.

In the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, just across the Mason and Dixon line, the movement is vigorously under way. The ma'ams there have an organization called the Pennsylvania State Teachers' League, and publish a journal called the *Pennsylvania Teacher,* with Miss Arabel W. Clark as editor. I turn to her current issue and find her opening her mind to her colleagues in an article filling no less than 6 of her 16 pages. Thus she begins:

> Today public education is a racket—a fully developed one perpetrated by politically-controlled school boards and politically-minded superintendents, and fostered by many schools of education and the sycophantic leaders of teachers' organizations. Since the World War this racket has progressed so rapidly and brazenly that it has burst at last through its guarded confines, and is attracting widespread attention.

Surely this is plain speaking. And what follows is just as frank and explicit. Miss Clark is full of indignation, and she wants the world to know it. She is tired of seeing the taxpayer's money wasted on preposterous pedagogical quackeries, and she is tired of seeing the overworked and underpaid schoolma'am used to cover them up. She is not taken in by those quackeries, and she stands in no awe of those who profit by them. She believes that the time has come to clean house in the public schools, and she says so in clear and blistering English.

II

Her bill of complaint includes all the familiar particulars. The obergogues, throughout the Depression, have tried desperately to save their racket at the expense of the schoolma'am. To the tune of altruistic outcries they have reduced her wages and increased her burden of work, but they have hung on to their own luxurious jobs with great assiduity, and have resisted every effort to diminish their easements and usufructs. Any protest from her has put her on their black list and imperiled her livelihood, and any caveat from a taxpayer, however polite, has got him denounced as an enemy of the enlightenment and a devourer of little children.

Even at the height of the Coolidge Prosperity, says Miss Clark, the ma'am always came out at the little end of the horn. When she was raised $60 a year in Philadelphia the superintendent had his salary lifted $6,000, exactly a hundred times as much. In Pittsburgh she got a little more, but a mysterious "expert" at $10,000 a year was hired to "rate" her, whatever that may mean, and the burden of her work was much increased. Everywhere in the State the overhead of the schools rose enormously. In Philadelphia so many superintendents, associate superintendents, district superintendents, directors, supervisors and other such lordly fauna were put on the pay roll that it cost the taxpayer $1,750,000 a year to support them, and a palace costing $3,000,000 was built to house them.

Those were the fat and lazy days of "scientific" pedagogy, the hog and hominy days. The supergogues basked in Utopia, with the poor ma'ams stoking its genial fires. And when the lid blew off, and the wrecked taxpayer began yelling for the police, it was the ma'ams who got the worst of it again. "Not one word," says Miss Clark, "was said about curtailing the activities or salaries of the administrative forces. Not one thought was given to reducing the number of administrators and placing them in classrooms, teaching, where they could lighten the load of the overburdened classroom teachers." Instead the ma'ams had their pay cut, and "the administrators, in an effort to save their departments and their salaries, suggested to the legislators that money be borrowed from the reserve funds of the Teacher Retirement System."

III

What became of all the money that was lavished on the public schools in the palmy days? Most of it, answers Miss Clark, went into "bricks and mortar, increased number in administrative forces, and more and more and then more textbooks. . . . Many a vacant lot or street corner is now adorned with a handsome structure that need not have been so ornate, that might have been less elaborate, that could perhaps have been omitted altogether." In these Taj Mahals the poor ma'ams still slave away, each with a glittering hierarchy of "experts" above her. And the interest and amortization thereon still sweat the taxpayer.

Has there been an improvement in teaching? I gather from Miss Clark's articles that she doubts it. She says:

> Numbers have been piled up in classes until normal instruction and learning are out of the question. Children of low mentality are mixed with those more fortunately equipped, and standards have been lowered to fit the lower type. Thus the high-type child has no chance for progress, and the poor types are confused and bewildered.

Obviously, it can't be much fun trying to teach under such conditions. But the harassed ma'am not only faces an almost

unendurable task; she must also tackle it under impossible conditions. For the Pestalozzis keep at her day in and day out—policing her, "rating her," training her in new tricks, addling her mind with their terrifying graphs, bombarding her with all the other fearsome arcana of their "science." After school hours she is forced to listen to their harangues with a straight face, and to feed them with the complicated statistics that they crave. And in the long vacation, when she might be recuperating from her miseries and giving some attention to the delicate business of snaring a husband, she must go to a red-hot summer school, and suffer the heat and the flies while more and worse "experts" belabor her with the latest marvels from Columbia. "If good work has been done in the schools," says Miss Clark,

> it has been accomplished by the classroom teachers against tremendous odds. If as much energy were expended by administrators in promoting the cause of these teachers as is used up in inventing ways and means of interrupting and interfering with them, the results of the public schools would soar with self-evidence and the schools would need no advertising.

IV

The fair author shows a certain heat here, but her allegations plainly have a great deal of truth in them. It is a manifest fact that the classroom teachers have been the victims of the New Pedagogy rather than its beneficiaries. One of its ostensible aims has been to lift them to a professional status, but it has actually made slaves of them. They are "interrupted and interfered with" by "experts" in all sorts of pseudo-sciences, revolting to their common sense, and in most communities they are also harassed by outside busybodies in cahoots with their oppressors. Meanwhile, their emoluments remain extremely modest. Large numbers of them, in fact, are grossly underpaid.

One of their chief uses to their overlords is to serve as shock troops when the taxpayer takes to the warpath against pedagogical extravagance. They are then shoved into the forefront of the fray, and efforts are made to show that every critic of the schools is trying to take their jobs away from them. Miss Clark's article is sufficient indication that many of them are tiring of this role. The stupid ones, of course, will go on serving as false-faces and stalking-horses to the end of the chapter, but the more intelligent are beginning to see how badly they have been used. Once their revolt gathers force the public schools will be on the way back to normalcy, and the taxpayer will get some release from his woes.

The head gogues, facing shrinking revenues everywhere, are now planning to touch the Federal Treasury for $500,000,000 a year. All the other varieties of uplifters are at the trough, and they see no reason why they should not have places too. But my guess is that they will fail. Once they come to close quarters they will find that the public opposition to their prodigality is really formidable at last, and that in large part it has been spread through the land by the complaints and confidences of their own teachers.

Pro and Con

IN the June 2 number of EQUAL RIGHTS announcement was made of the fact that the Council of the General Federation of Women's Clubs meeting at Hot Springs, Arkansas, on May 25, last, adopted a resolution instructing its Legislative Chairman, in coördination with the chairmen of its other departments, to "prepare a study covering both sides of the question involved in the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

Preceding the passage of the resolution, the merits of the proposed amendment were debated pro and con by Burnita Shelton Matthews, attorney and member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, and Mrs. Jerome E. Cook of St. Louis, Mo., active worker in the League of Women Voters. The passage of the resolution was due in great measure to the efforts of Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, former National Chairman of the Woman's Party.

Summaries of the arguments of the debaters at Hot Springs are published in the June number of *The Clubwoman GFWC,* official organ of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and are reprinted below:

FOR THE AMENDMENT

By BURNITA SHELTON MATTHEWS

The discriminations still imposed upon women by the laws of this country bear witness to the need for the Equal Rights Amendment. In more than one-third of the States there are still laws which take little account of the claims and feelings of mothers. In the District of Columbia, when a son or daughter dies without a will, the father often inherits to the exclusion of the mother. In Florida, when a child is killed under such circumstances as to justify a suit for damages, the father of the child is permitted to collect damages for the "mental pain" and suffering of the mother. In Massachusetts, Michigan and New York, the services and earnings of a minor child belong to the father. In Louisiana, a child is a forced heir and can only be disinherited for cause. Although over the legitimate child the father is given paramount rights and the mother little recognition, over the unfortunate child born out of wedlock, which is regarded by society as an outcast, the law makes the mother the sole guardian and decrees that the child has no father.

Before a woman marries, if she wants to operate a beauty shop or a real estate office, no one will inquire as to her capacity to run it; when she marries, the law in some States requires her to go through a complicated court procedure to satisfy the judge as to her capacity and competency. The most ignorant man is not subjected to such requirements. In 40 States, the services of the wife in the home belong to the husband, and he usually has the right to sue for damages for injury to her. Women are disqualified as jurors in 27 States. They are discriminated against with regard to public office.

Sometimes the Equal Rights Amendment is referred to as the "blanket" Amendment, meaning that it is general instead of specific. All of the provisions of our Constitution are general in their nature in that they do not contain definitions, details or specifications.

Opponents to this Amendment object that it will take "protection" from women. The labor laws for women especially protect them, it is claimed. Let us consider the minimum wage law as an example. Massachusetts has such a law. Reports from State officials plainly show that women are finding it difficult to obtain employment at the wages set because men and boys offer to work for less. The minimum wage law should be applicable to both men and women. The NRA is fixing wages for all workers, men and women, though a short time ago we were told that to have a minimum wage law for men would be unconstitutional. I am for labor legislation, but for legislation that is based on the nature of the work and not the sex of the worker.

AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

By MRS. JEROME E. COOK

The economic contest is primarily a contest between life and profits, to which the struggle for sex rights is but a by-play. If in the great game of bettering the conditions of life we take our eye off the economic ball, we shall make a serious mistake. That is why I am opposed to the blanket "Equal Rights" amendment.

Even if this amendment could put women on an equal footing, industrial or social or civil, which I believe it cannot—but if it could, what would you have done? You would have transferred women from the realm where their special needs were being faced and fought for, to that of men who are free to work any number of hours a day, to receive any wage they are forced

to take, to experience, in short, all the doubtful present-day joys of pseudo-freedom in a world that has taken few steps towards any genuine industrial democracy.

That there are inequalities in our laws which are discriminatory against women cannot be denied. These injustices are being removed through the State-by-State method. It is a slow and plodding method but it permits you to educate your community to an acceptance of your legislation so that by the time it is enacted, it has a chance of being put into effect. The greatest of all classes of discriminations against the professional woman are dependent not upon our laws but upon our social habits, our social thinking.

Why, you may ask, can't women obtain decent working conditions for themselves by the same methods that men use? The reply is sensible. Men have gained protection for themselves by means of unionization and the strike. Women have not been able to use these methods with very great success; many of them go into industry with the idea that it is only a premarriage period, and then emerge into industry again when they are middle-aged, tired, and interested more in personal peace than social progress. Women have never been strong in trade union movements.

Men and women are not identical. We are different, not inferior or superior one to the other, but different in the quality of what we have to contribute to the world. The world has too long tarried in studying the dissimilarity. I believe we should learn to understand the nature of it and to build upon that knowledge a society which permits both masculinity and femininity to flower in the way native to each. Instead of cancelling laws which make it illegal, for instance, to employ a woman for three weeks prior to and three weeks following childbirth, we should work for maternity income to cover the period of her disability.

That voting womanhood has been so largely responsible for the legislation restricting industry when it menaces lives, is, to my mind, the greatest good to have come out of extending the vote to women.

Feminist Notes

Odds and Ends

By Hilda N. Dulac

AT my window a pigeon is strutting and cooing; by his side is the fair lady bird he is wooing. In the garden below stroll a man and a maid; he is pleading and pledging where spreads the cool shade.

But the pigeon is offering no bright gilded cage where his mate is to dwell till decrepit with age; for her will be freedom in sunshine and air and whatever of pleasure a pigeon finds there.

While the man as he lays down his heart at her feet—well I'll leave you the story yourself to complete.

* * * *

Is it not the limit? Now the masculine critics—I almost wrote busybodies but that would not be nice—tell us women show their lack of intelligence, foresight, etc., because they do not make the same use in their households of labor-saving inventions that men do in their occupations.

Is it lack of intelligence or something else? Watch these women as they gaze longingly at the new devices on exhibition in the stores. Hear the inevitable question, "How much?"; and then the sigh and the sad turning away.

The income is limited; there is the insurance, the rent, the taxes; the children need this or need that. It is so hard to balance the budget.

"I would love to have it. But I'll have to get along for the present."

Yes, women have more heart than head; but does that necessarily imply a lack of head?

Woman Referee of Workmen's Compensation

WINIFRED PRINCE of Pennsylvania has been appointed workmen's compensation referee in that State, the first woman incumbent of that office since the workmen's compensation law went into effect in 1915.

Mrs. Prince is an A.B. of Smith College and an LL.B. of New York University. She is President of the Pennsylvania League of Women Voters.

Good for Both

A FEATURE of the opening of the Day Camp of the Camp Fire Girls in Van Cortlandt Park, New York, was a speech by James A. Hamilton, president of the Bronx Council of Boy Scouts, in which he said:

"It is just as essential that what we are doing for the boys of the Bronx we should try to do for the girls of the Bronx."

Leonora de Alberti

"THE recent passing of Miss Leonora de Alberti," says the *Bulletin* of the International Council of Women, "has deprived Feminism in Great Britain of an outstanding supporter and in her the Catholic Woman's Movement in particular has lost one of its most brilliant and devoted pioneers. Leonora de Alberti was born in London of a Spanish mother and an Italian father and, as one of her obituary notices expressed it, 'though grateful to the land of her birth for its wider freedom and opportunity, she remained a Latin at heart.' By profession an expert at deciphering old Spanish, Portuguese, French and Italian documents, it is as a gallant fighter for women's enfranchisement that her name will be best remembered by friends of the woman's movement in many countries. With little money but an ardent faith, she founded in 1915 the *Catholic Suffragist*, which later became the *Catholic Citizen*, the well-known organ of St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, of which she was the editor for more than nineteen years. Miss de Alberti's work was, however, not limited to her editorial tasks; she served on many committees, the Council for the Representation of Women on the League of Nations, among others. A keen internationalist, she took an active interest in the work of the International Alliance for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship and, on several occasions, edited their paper, *Jus Suffragii*, in a temporary capacity. We sincerely sympathize with St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance in their grievous loss."

Madame Curie

THE following tribute to the great woman scientist appears in a recent number of *Time and Tide* of London, England:

"At the age of sixty-seven, Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium and one of the great scientists of the world, died in Paris. France, America and indeed the whole world honored her greatly during her lifetime. She had that rare personal quality that captivates the human imagination, and the academy honors showered on her make a long list. The American people in 1920 and 1929 raised enormous sums to provide her with radium to further her researches. It was in 1902 that Madame Curie succeeded in isolating radium chloride, and in 1910 she was able to prepare the metal radium, working, as she says, 'in a kind of abandoned shed, arranged in the most primitive way, without any suitable chemical equipment.' Since then her life-work was a brilliant exploration of the potentialities of radium. To her discoveries civilization is indebted for radium therapy, which has made possible the treatment of cancerous diseases hitherto abandoned as incurable, and her researches have transformed every idea previously held on the subject of intra-atomic energy. Many accepted the popular notion of her as a self-contained scientific research worker, uninterested in external affairs. But in fact, shy, retiring and frail as she was, she had a vivid personal life, and took a keen interest in matters of every day."

Press Comment

Noted Woman Lawyer Speaks

Colorado Springs Gazette,
July 14, 1934.

MRS. LUCIEN GREATHOUSE, known professionally as Rebekah Greathouse, a member of the law firm of Matthews, Berrien & Greathouse in Washington, D. C., and a former Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, will be one of the speakers at the interim meeting of the national board of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, to be held here today and tomorrow. The national board will meet simultaneously with the Colorado Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, which will be in annual session at the Antlers Hotel.

Mrs. Greathouse left Washington yesterday for Colorado Springs, according to word received here.

A graduate of Smith College and the Washington College of Law, Mrs. Greathouse is a gifted speaker and a successful lawyer. She is secretary of the National Woman's Party and an instructor at the Washington College of Law.

Dr. Peters Praises Woman's Party Work

Colorado Springs Gazette,
July 19, 1934.

GOING on record as being ready to defend such principles of economic security as will insure to each individual the safeguards guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, the national board of the Business and Professional Women's Clubs adjourned last night after a week's session at the Antlers Hotel. The resolution was presented by Miss Marjorie Schuler of New York, corresponding secretary of the Federation, and a program in behalf of economic security will be set in motion by 1,350 clubs of the Federation.

Following the adoption of Miss Schuler's resolution she offered a six-point program which was unanimously adopted. The resolutions follow:

"Ask every State Federation to present a copy of the resolution to the governor and any other public official whom they think it would be helpful to inform, including all candidates for public office who would be asked to state whether or not they will appoint qualified women to positions. Furthermore, that every State Federation be asked to give time to this issue at its board or State meetings.

"Send a copy of the resolution to President Roosevelt and Secretary of Labor Perkins.

"Ask other national women's organizations meeting this year to pass resolutions similar to our own and to publicize them as widely as possible.

"Ask our own speakers' bureau and all national representatives to State conventions to emphasize this objective.

"Approach as many women as possible who are speaking before audiences to include some mention of the objective."

Dr. Iva Lowther Peters of New York, chairman of the Federation's committee on discriminations, said in her report at the closing session of the conference:

"Common law shows many survivals of ancient sex distinctions. For study and information of these the organization relies on the work done by the National Woman's Party and its lawyers.

"With them the Federation has recognized its duty in supporting the rights of married women as workers. All of the official material now issued accepts the married woman's right to work as fundamental and constitutional right, not to be questioned any more than her right to vote."

Women Victims of "Protective" Laws

Colorado Springs Gazette,
July 17, 1934.

MANY women driven back into the home as a result of unemployment in industry and the professions take with them many of the jobs performed by industrial workers, thus cutting down opportunities for occupation in the world of business, according to Mrs. Rebekah S. Greathouse of Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Greathouse, who is secretary of the National Woman's Party and a member of the Washington law firm of Matthews, Berrien & Greathouse, said in an interview yesterday that women today, as formerly, are victims of so-called protective legislation. The organization of which she is secretary is dedicated, she pointed out, to the purpose of bringing about complete Equal Rights for women, particularly by means of an amendment to the Federal Constitution.

"The only right now guaranteed to women by the Constitution," she said, "is the right to vote. The other rights guaranteed to 'all persons' are interpreted by the courts in the light of the ancient common law, under which women were practically slaves. State laws have done much to mitigate the situation, particularly in Colorado, but even here a woman accused of crime cannot have women on the jury to try her."

This situation has become more acute in the last few years, Mrs. Greathouse asserted, "because of a tendency to drive women out of paid employment. This is sometimes done on the initiative of employers, but often it is forced by certain restrictive laws called protective legislation, a term that was used to describe the horrible laws against women in the eighteenth century.

"In considering the problem, many people," she said, "lose sight of the fact that as women are driven back into their homes, they take with them many of the jobs of paid workers, such as those of laundrymen, clothing manufacturers and food canners."

News from the Field

This Pen Made History

IN EQUAL RIGHTS of June 30 was published a letter from M. H. McIntyre, Assistant Secretary to the President, to Myrtle Rejane Patterson, chairman of the Poets' Council of the Woman's Party, accompanying the gift of one of the pens which the President used in signing the Equal Nationality Bill. Miss Patterson who has celebrated the incident in verse, writes:

"I was desirous, not only as a poet, but because of my activities as the Alabama member of our Congressional Committee, which State, as you know, played an important part in securing the passage of our bill during the last session of Congress, to have this token from our President, this great symbol of a marvelous and almost phenomenal victory for women, and of the victories yet to come through the magnificent leadership of the members of the National Woman's Party, who are guiding the destiny of woman to her ultimate goal: Equality in All Human Relations, that the right to life, liberty and happiness may be woman's legal inheritance now and forever.

"May I add my poetical tribute to this memento from President Roosevelt:

"JUST A PEN"

"Just a pen, but history it made,
Nationality rights with law did prevail
On May twenty-fourth, nineteen thirty-four,
When the efforts of women played high score!

"Just a pen, but it wrote the signature
Of the President to our citizenship measure,
Making into law the dreams of women,
Ending a struggle against man-made opinion!

"Just a pen, but an emblem of hope,
A symbol of victories in greater scope,
Guiding the destiny of woman to her goal—
Equality in every human role!"

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